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# BLACK & WHITE IN AMERICAN CULTURE

An Anthology from *The Massachusetts Review*

Edited by JULES CHAMETZKY and SIDNEY KAPLAN

**S**ince its founding, *The Massachusetts Review* has played a unique role in emphasizing, early and often, the importance of black culture in America. Establishing itself as the major journal in which the black writer could feel confidence, *MR* enlisted for the duration of the struggle on behalf of human rights.

This volume is unusual in gathering together stories, poems, portraits, and critical commentaries on the interaction between black and white culture which have appeared in the pages of *MR* during its first ten years.

Included are major studies on The Movement, A Legacy of Creative Protest, Blues and Jazz, Black Portraits, The Black in American Literature, and The New African Humanism. Contributors include Martin Luther King, Jr., Sterling A. Brown, Stokely Carmichael, Robert Coles, Nat Hentoff, Max Margulis, Milton Mayer, William Stuart Nelson, G.C. Oden, Leonard Baskin, Jean-Paul Sartre, Howard Zinn, W.E.B. DuBois, and Mike Thelwell.

Sidney Kaplan, a founder of *MR*, and Jules Chametzky, at present co-editor with John H. Hicks, have edited the anthology. Both are members of the Department of English at the University of Massachusetts.

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# RACE RELATIONS IN VIRGINIA & MISCEGENATION IN THE SOUTH 1776–1860

JAMES HUGO JOHNSTON

With an Introduction by Winthrop Jordan

**T**his volume is a major source book on race relations in the South from the American Revolution to the outbreak of the Civil War. The chief documents cited by the author are the petitions addressed to the legislature of Virginia and the executive papers of the Governors of Virginia.

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Mr. Johnston's history provides an invaluable view of the legal institutionalization of slavery in the South — the social and economic arrangements and the political and moral issues. His observations such as, "in the early days race prejudice was very closely akin to English class prejudice," provide useful insights into the nature of slavery in the United States.

Historian James Hugo Johnston, formerly Vice-President and Dean of Virginia State College, now lives in retirement in Petersburg, Virginia.

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ELY

## TOO BLACK, TOO WHITE

ELY GREEN

Edited by Elizabeth N. & Arthur Ben Chitty

**E**ly Green was born in Sewanee, Tennessee in 1893. His father was white, his mother black. "So I was looked on as a half white bastard and so called that by almost everyone that knew me." This is a very special life story, written by a sensitive and expressive man who kept a journal of his very particular experience in America. Moving often during his lifetime, Ely Green lived in many parts of America, taking whatever jobs he could find, as chauffeur, valet, trainer for the Detroit Tigers, prize fighter. He served in France during World War I with the segregated Army and was, all his life, a nonviolent, if sometimes explosive, advocate of civil and human rights.

Ely Green died in 1968, as his journals were about to be published in complete form. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur B. Chitty of the Association of Episcopal Colleges, who knew him, have helped to prepare the text for publication. Presented as they were written, the journals expose the tragedy of the two Americas, telling in clear terms what it was like to be too black, too white to belong to either.


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# THE SELLING OF JOSEPH

A Memorial

SAMUEL SEWALL

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 Samuel Sewall, a Bostonian of wealth and social standing, performed two acts of great courage which set him apart from his contemporaries. The first was his public confession of his error as the judge in the notorious Salem witch trials. The second was his writing of *The Selling of Joseph: A Memorial*, in June 1700, the first antislavery tract printed in New England.

In 1700 the triangular slave trade was already an institution; by 1720 there would be 2,000 slaves in the colony of Boston. As he pondered the unjustness of slavery, Sewall saw the trend, and after much deliberation, decided to "write something about it." His eloquent statement speaks out boldly for the liberty of all the sons of Adam.

Only one copy of the tract is known to exist. It was reprinted once in the eighteenth century, and not again until the Civil War. This edition has been reprinted from The Gehenna Press limited edition of 1969.

Sidney Kaplan is Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts.

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